

TOBYHANNA REPORTER

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Vol. 52, No. 22 TOBYHANNA ARMY DEPOT, TOBYHANNA, PA. (WWW.TOBYHANNA.ARMY.MIL) NOVEMBER 18, 2008

News Notes

Club hosts annual dinner dance

The Toby Breakfast Club invites depot employees and retirees to its annual Christmas Dinner Dance on Dec. 15 at the Arcaro & Genell Banquet Room in Old Forge.

The dance will begin at 6 p.m and will feature “Twins Entertainment” DJs Frankie, Big Jack, Jody Cannolil, Jimmy Shears, Lenny B. and the Calamari Singers and Dancers.

Cost is \$22 per person and includes a buffet dinner and refreshments. For reservations or further information, call Frankie, 346-6438.

The Tobyhanna Breakfast Club is a depot retiree organization that meets every Tuesday at the Honky Tonk restaurant in Dunmore at 8:30 a.m.

Women’s Club accepts applications

The Tobyhanna Women’s Club is accepting membership applications for 2009. The membership period is Jan. 1-Dec. 31. Annual dues are \$5. To access an application go to the intranet, Programs Services/Tobyhanna Women’s Club. For more information, call Eileen Rizzo, X57336, or Lynn Hill, X57218.

Commissary posts holiday hours

The Commissary will be open Nov. 24, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and closed Nov. 27-28. It will also be open on Dec. 22, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and Dec. 24, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. It will be closed Dec. 25. The Commissary will open its doors again on Dec. 26 and Dec. 31, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., and will be closed on Jan. 1.

The Commissary will be open for normal business hours on the days not listed. For more information call Jerry Durham, store director, X57628.

CWF plans bus trip to the Big Apple

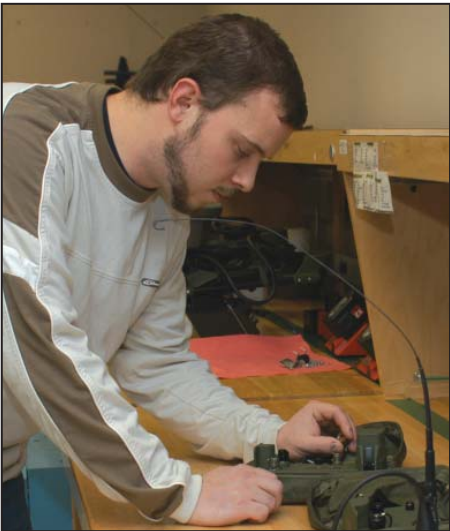
Civilian Welfare Fund is planning an “on your own” bus trip to New York City on Dec. 13. The cost is \$20. The buses will depart the depot parking lot at 7 a.m. and depart New York at 6 p.m. For details, call X58851.

OSC hosts teddy bear toss

Operation Santa Claus will host two teddy bear toss collections at the Wilkes-Barre Scranton Penguins hockey games on Dec. 19

See NOTES on Page 7

Workers beat BAIS deadline by 25 days



Electronics Technician Neil Altieri checks out the sensor component of an AN/PRS-9 Battlefield Anti-Intrusion System before it is placed in storage to await fielding.

by Anthony Ricchiazzi
Editor

More than 100 battlefield sensor systems were readied and delivered nearly a month ahead of schedule in support of a surveillance system program.

Tobyhanna received a request from the Battlefield Anti-Intrusion System (BAIS) program manager to prepare and ship 110 AN/PRS-9 BAIS systems and spare parts to support the Base Expeditionary Targeting and Surveillance Sensors-Combined program.

The systems were needed by Oct. 31. Tobyhanna shipped them on Oct. 6, 25 days ahead of schedule.

“The PRS-9 is a force protection multiplier,” says Kenneth Martin, electronics integrated system mechanic. “Each system is a set of three seismic acoustic unattended ground sensors that can classify between people and wheeled and tracked vehicles.”

Martin works in the Air Traffic Control, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Directorate.

He said the system works by using a processor with programmed algorithms of the seismic signatures of people and vehicles. “It samples the sounds and vibrations that people and vehicles make

and matches them with what is stored in the processor. It then sends what it has identified to handheld monitors, which tells the Soldiers what is in the area.”

To prevent BAIS systems in a local area from interfering with each other, an individual BAIS can be programmed to a specific frequency.

“We started fielding this system in 2006,” said John Ross, chief of the Ground Control Approach/Sensors Branch. “We’ve had 24 fieldings so far. We provide BAIS programming, testing and fielding.”

Chris Allen, an electronics mechanic helper, said Tobyhanna equips the systems with spare parts, such as antennas, microphones, cables and earphones.

“We give each system an operational test here, adding whatever parts are requested to make a kit,” he said.

Ross said kits are stored at Tobyhanna until a request for fielding is made. “For example, the 110 kits that were just prepared will be fielded sometime in September,” he explained. “When we get the call, technicians will go onsite to provide training and install the kits.”

Martin noted that branch and Technical Training Division personnel provide classroom and customized hands-on training, including having the Soldiers install sensors themselves in the field. “A military police unit will have different requirements than a scout unit, so we worked with Tech Training to develop training tailored for that,” he said. “We also provide field-level maintenance training.”

“And because units have to deal with personnel and field changes, we make sure they receive train-the-trainer level information,” Allen added.



Electronics Worker Amy Frey makes sure the receiver component of an AN/PRS-9 BAIS functions properly after the system was prepared for a future fielding. (Photos by Anthony Ricchiazzi)

Depot observes Quality Month

Page 3

CFC surpasses goal

Page 4

Deployed employee claims quarterly award

Page 5

Letterkenny Army Depot takes on a new mission in Kuwait

by Kim Russell
Letterkenny Public Affairs

Letterkenny Army Depot has contracted with VSE Corp., Alexandria, Va., to modernize the Route Clearance Vehicles in Kuwait. VSE was selected as the prime contractor to improve the U.S. military’s defense against roadside mines and improvised explosive devices.

IEDs are the number one source of casualties for U.S. forces in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the RCVs are one of several tools that the warfighter is using to offset this threat. The effort will be managed by a Letterkenny Army Depot team and the facility will be operated by VSE Corp.

“Route Clearance Vehicles are the work horses in assisting route clearance teams to detect and neutralize potentially deadly IEDs, protecting warfighters from explosively formed penetrator and other explosive hazards encountered on vital supply routes in Iraq and Afghanistan. Ensuring their readiness is critical to the war effort”, Col. Steven A. Shapiro, commander, Letterkenny Army Depot.

Letterkenny Army Depot and VSE Corp. will give the Army the opportunity to repair and modernize the RCVs in theater.

The Letterkenny Army Depot RCV program manager will initiate fleet repair and perform modernization maintenance on the RCVs. The RCV Modernization is a three-year program effort with total fleet repair and modernization as the end state.

RCV maintenance will be conducted in a facility in Kuwait operated by Letterkenny and VSE. It will be operational in early 2009 for assets currently being utilized by the U.S. Army and Marine Corps warfighters in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Letterkenny Army Depot is a capabilities based facility and winner of five Shingo medallions.



General Dunwoody new AMC commander

U.S. Army Lt. Gen. Ann E. Dunwoody smiles during her promotion to general, where she was pinned by Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. George W. Casey, left, and her husband, Craig Brotchie, during a ceremony at the Pentagon, Friday. Dunwoody made history as the nation’s first four-star female officer. General Dunwoody later assumed command of the U.S. Army Materiel Command from Gen. Benjamin S. Griffin at an afternoon ceremony at AMC headquarters. General Casey presided over the ceremony, which included a 17-gun salute, the AMC Band and the AMC ceremonial color guard. (Photo by U.S. Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Molly A. Burgess)

AKO recognized by DoD as information delivery standard

WASHINGTON—Army Knowledge Online/Defense Knowledge Online, Having just achieved it’s one-billionth user log-on at the end of September, received a third-place award for improving information delivery and saving the Department of Defense millions of dollars by providing a portal that will become the standard for all DoD agencies.

The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Networks and Information Integration/ Department of Defense Chief Information Officer John Grimes announced the recipients of this year’s DoD CIO Awards during a Sept. 30 ceremony at the Pentagon.

There are 2.1 million users registered on the AKO portal, which hosts DKO. On

any given day, 350,000 people log in to use the services provided by the secure portal. One of the most popular services offered by AKO/DKO is the e-mail tool, which provides the user with an e-mail address for life, and is accessible anywhere there is an Internet connection.

Four billion e-mail messages went through the portal last year, and on any given day, 80 percent of the Army’s e-mail goes through AKO.

By providing a centralized location for file management, information sharing, and a directory of everyone in the military, AKO has been able to consolidate resources and spending to one specific location.

The AKO/DKO team is constantly

working to upgrade security measures, and portal users can expect new features that are Web 2.0-based in the coming months, officials said. AKO-Wiki along with e-mail that’s accessible from a PDA, and an improved search tool are all expected to become available to AKO/DKO users in the near future, they said, and an improved Army Homepage will debut on the Internet later this year.

“DKO is becoming the primary entry point for most DoD components to share the same infrastructure, security mechanisms, presentation layer and access to date,” said Grimes in the award citation.

“The team’s superb efforts have resulted in AKO/DKO becoming the premier site that provides the tools enabling

DoD organizations to communicate and collaborate securely and effectively.”

The DoD CIO awards are based on outstanding achievement in at least one of the following seven key areas: acquisition; architecture and interoperability; information assurance; management and standards; applications (technology or process); capital planning and investment; and information management/information technology workforce.

The award winners were chosen because they improved information delivery, management capability, and process efficiency while reducing costs, saving resources, and enhancing the department’s net-centric capacity across multiple mission areas.

TOBYHANNA REPORTER

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ELECTRONICS



Quality month concludes with presentation

William Levinson, Lean Six Sigma quality consultant, briefs depot Lean Six Sigma starpoints on the American roots of Lean, during a presentation here on Oct. 30. The visit concluded the depot’s observance of Quality Month. In 1984 President Ronald Reagan announced October as National Quality Month. The campaign focuses on the significance of quality and continuous improvement. The depot has been recognized by the American Society for Quality (ASQ) as a sustaining member for the past 24 years. The depot receives recognition through awards, Shingo prizes and customer recognition for quality standards, and was also a finalist for the ASQ International Team Excellence Award. During the brief, Levinson gave examples of how Henry Ford developed a comprehensive Lean enterprise system that is the basis for present-day Lean concepts. Ford created a proactive corporate culture that supported recognizing waste on sight. Front-line workers were empowered and encouraged to eliminate waste, Levinson explained. He also touched upon Value-Stream Analysis and how it identifies which operations add value to a product, and explained that single-piece flow reduces cycle time and makes process control easier. Levinson concluded the presentation by encouraging starpoints to present Ford’s down-to-earth and hands-on approach to depot employees. (Photos by Tony Medici)

HOW ARE WE DOING?

TOBYHANNA CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY

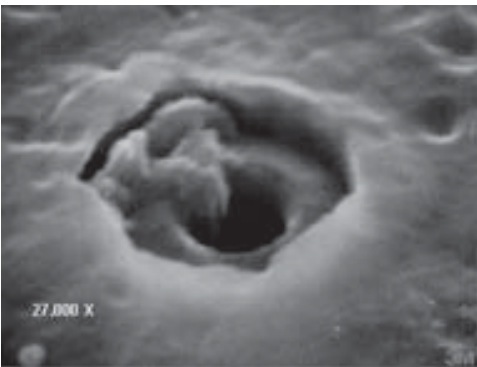
www.tobyhanna.army.mil

Click on the customer service link to rate depot support, services

ESD quiz answers common misconceptions

Many of the components repaired at the depot are susceptible to damage caused by electrostatic discharge (ESD). Soldiers rely on depot employees to properly handle and package electronic devices to ensure dependable systems are delivered to the war zone.

Part of Ray Rowe’s job is to educate employees on ESD through continuous training and inspections. Rowe is an electronics engineer in the Productivity Improvement and Innovation Directorate’s Process Engineering Division. Below, he answers some common misconceptions of ESD.



Shown is the internal stucture of an integrated circuit that has been damaged by ESD, magnified 27,000 times.

ESD is a myth. Depot personnel do not need to worry about the repercussions of inadequate ESD protection.

FALSE: Organizations that work on components, such as the depot, report an estimated 27-33 percent loss of components due to ESD damage. The depot ESD program is an important part of assuring that we continue to provide reliable quality products to Soldiers.

I don’t need to wear a wrist strap if I touch ground.

FALSE: In order to reduce the chances of an ESD event, a person wearing a wrist strap attached to an ESD mat provides a slow path which bleeds off any accumulated charge. An individual who simply touches ground provides an open path which may result in component damage.

Only static discharges that I can feel will damage a component.

FALSE: Most people don’t feel a static discharge unless it is greater than 3000 volts. The ESD susceptibility of many components is lower than 50 volts.

I can lay a circuit card on an anti-static bag on my ESD mat and the card will be protected.

FALSE: Placing an anti-static bag between a circuit card and ESD mat acts as an insulator thus blocking the flow of dissipative charges.

ESD precautions aren’t necessary during the humid days of summer because humidity scatters electric charges.

FALSE: ESD events can occur under any environmental condition.

It’s ok to set a Styrofoam cup on a work surface, as long as it’s not on the ESD mat.

FALSE: Styrofoam of any type acts as an insulator. Styrofoam will store static electricity and this stored energy can be transferred to sensitive electronics items, potentially damaging that item.

I was told I must wear my wrist strap at all times, even when I work on powered equipment.

FALSE: In all cases in which energized equipment is utilized, personal safety overrides ESD precautions.

I only perform mechanical repairs, so I don’t need an ESD mat.

FALSE: If electronic components remaining in the unit can be seen while performing mechanical repairs, ESD precautions must be observed.

It’s easy to tell if a component has been damaged by an ESD event; it just doesn’t work.

FALSE: Not all ESD damage immediately destroys the component. In many cases the component is weakened and could unexpectedly stop working in the system in the future.

The equipment I work on is older and outdated; some pieces date back to the 1960s. There’s no way it can be damaged by ESD.

FALSE: Although much of the equipment being repaired here use legacy electronic components, they are still susceptible to ESD damages; they are just not as sensitive as today’s technology.

Vets can render hand salute during national anthem

WASHINGTON—Veterans and servicemembers not in uniform can now render the military-style hand salute during the playing of the national anthem, thanks to changes in federal law that took effect in October.

“The military salute is a unique gesture of respect that marks those who have served in our nation’s armed forces,” said Dr. James B. Peake, secretary of Veterans Affairs. “This provision allows the application of that honor in all events involving our nation’s flag.”

The new provision improves upon a little known change in federal law last year that authorized veterans to render the military-style hand salute during the raising, lowering or passing of the flag, but it did not address salutes during the national anthem. Last year’s provision also applied to servicemembers while not in uniform.

Traditionally, members of the nation’s veterans service organizations have rendered the hand-salute during the national anthem and at events involving the national flag while wearing their organization’s official head-gear.

The most recent change, authorizing hand-salutes during the national anthem by veterans and out-of-uniform military personnel, was sponsored by Sen. Jim Inhofe of Oklahoma, an Army veteran. It was included in the Defense Authorization Act of 2009, which President Bush signed Oct. 14.

The earlier provision authorizing hand-salutes for veterans and out-of-uniform servicemembers during the raising, lowering or passing of the flag, was contained in the National Defense Authorization Act of 2008, which took effect Jan. 28, 2008. (Courtesy of VA News)



Veterans and servicemembers not in uniform now can render the military-style hand salute during the playing of the national anthem.

Lunchtime seminar offers tips to prevent identity theft

by Jennifer Caprioli
Staff Writer

Identity theft specialists taught depot employees how to safeguard personal information during a brown bag lunch seminar Oct. 30.

This was one of a series of lunchtime briefings, hosted by the Army Community Service, designed to arm people with information on a variety of topics, including cancer and domestic abuse awareness. Phillip Horne and Crystal Hamilton talked to employees about the different types of identity theft and the tactics used to obtain information.

The first half of the seminar focused on the five areas of identity theft: driver's license, social security, medical, character and financial.

Driver's license identity theft occurs when another person attains a driver's license in your name, which they use for things such as building up parking tickets in your name. "When you don't pay those

tickets and don't show-up for a court date that you didn't know about, a warrant for your arrest will be filed," Horne explained.

Social security identity theft transpires when someone's name, address and social security number are stolen. "Some people will start a business with your information but you're still responsible for the tax bill because it's in your name," he said.

Medical identity theft occurs when a person's name and insurance information is stolen and used to obtain medical services, such as an expensive surgery.

Character identity theft is when someone uses your identity to commit crimes in your name in order to escape fines or jail time.

Financial identity theft is when someone uses your information to make purchases in your name. Horne added that credit card fraud, which is in that category, is less than 30 percent of the complaints.

A recent victim of character identity theft said that it's very easy to steal someone's identity. She says credit card companies did not alert her when her cards were being used

to pay bills that were not in her name. Her advice: Try to be a better bookkeeper and keep credit card numbers and passwords in a safe place. "It was a hard lesson to learn and I'm extremely careful now."

The second half of the seminar covered the various tactics that are used to obtain information. Horne mentioned pick-pocketing as being a "primitive" crime because thieves have discovered more advanced methods for gathering information.

Dumpster diving consists of people going through personal garbage or businesses' garbage, looking for documents that have people's personal information. Horne suggests shredding papers containing personal information before you discard them.

He also mentioned that mail theft is common in areas where mail is sent from/delivered to a residence and says "the safest way to pay your bills is online." Secure Web sites are recognized by the "s" in the beginning of the Internet address (https://).

Shoulder surfing occurs when users enter their personal identification numbers at ATMs or when someone is making a purchase and a thief hears them give personal information over the phone.

The last common way that personal information is stolen is called skimming. This happens when a credit card is temporarily stolen. The card is run through a reader that has been programmed to steal the personal information off the card, says Horne.

He warns cardholders that this can occur when paying a bill at restaurants and retail stores because cards are sometimes taken out of your sight.

Horne and Hamilton explained that there are companies that aid people before, during and after an identity theft crisis. They encourage awareness and suggest employees find out how to protect themselves.

For more information, contact Nicole Nelson, Army Community Service program manager, X57069 or nicole.nelson4@us.army.mil.



TOBYHANNA ARMY DEPOT COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN SURPASSES GOAL



Annual fund drive successful

The Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) ended on Nov. 14. As of Thursday, efforts helped raise over \$216,000, exceeding the \$201,000 goal. (Above) Over 1,000 hoagies were sold during this year's hoagie sale, raising about \$3,200. (Right) Employees purchased 977 tickets for both spaghetti dinners which helped raise over \$2,660. CFC will accept pledges through Dec. 15. "We appreciate everyone's support for this year's campaign, including all key persons, the collection area volunteers and everyone who participated by making a donation," says Melissa Flowers, CFC chair. *The Tobyhanna Reporter* will announce the total amount collected once all pledge cards are collected. To submit a pledge card, call Flowers, X57899, or Kathy Winowich, CFC co-chair, X56656. (Photos by Tony Medici)



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Postal service announces holiday mailing guidelines

by Samantha Quigley
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFNS)—As the holidays approach and people start thinking about what they are going to send loved ones and friends serving overseas, there are a few dates to keep in mind.

"The earliest deadline is for troops that are serving in the Iraq [and] Afghanistan area," Al DeSarro said, spokesman for the western region of the U.S. Postal Service. "You want to send all your holiday mail and packages [to those areas] by Dec. 4."

Holiday mail, including packages and cards, going to military bases in other parts of the world should be shipped by Dec. 11, he said.

"We do encourage people to closely follow these deadlines," DeSarro said. "Of course, we make every attempt, even if you miss the deadline, to deliver the mail to our troops."

People who cannot beat those dates have another option to get holiday goodies to their destinations in time: Express Mail. But it will cost more and is not available for military members serving in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Priority mail flat-rate boxes are the best value when shipping to military members serving at home or anywhere overseas, DeSarro said. The largest flat-rate box costs \$10.95 to ship to an APO or FPO address. That is a \$2 discount, and the boxes are free.

The flat-rate boxes come with another bonus. If it will fit in the box, and weighs 70 pounds or less, it ships at the established rate.

"We also offer a special military package kit, ... and this applies even if you want to send to our troops here in the U.S.," DeSarro said. "If you call ... 1-800-610-8734, they'll send you a free kit of packaging materials-priority mail boxes, tape, labels and stuff that can make your holiday packing much easier."

When shipping any holiday package, there are some basic guidelines to take into consideration, he added. If a USPS-provided box is not being used, senders should make sure the box they're using is sturdy. Don't use wrapping paper or string on the outside, and print both the shipping and return addresses clearly. Contents should be packaged securely and in leak-proof containers, and consider the customs of the country to ensure the items are appropriate and acceptable.

USPS officials also suggests including the mailing address, return address and the contents of the box on a slip of paper with the other contents, just in case something out of the ordinary should happen.

Following not only the shipping date guidelines, but also the general packing guidelines can help the USPS get packages where they are going during its busiest time of the year.

DeSarro urges people to mail as much as they want and as early as they can, adding that officials expect 20 million pounds of mail will be sent to U.S. troops this holiday season.



Navy Cmdr. Brian Allen (right), Multi-National Division-Central officer-in-charge, presents Mark Bell with a citation naming him the U.S. Army Central Command Joint CREW Composite Squadron-One Civilian of the Quarter, 3rd quarter. The citation is from Navy Capt. John W. Smith, Joint CREW Composite Squadron-One commander. (Photo courtesy Donald Bockelkamp)

Deployed employee earns award for job well done

**by Anthony Ricchiazzi
Editor**

A newly-trained technician supporting warfighters in Iraq has been recognized by Central Command for outstanding duty performance.

Mark Bell, an electronics technician, earned the U.S. Army Central Command's Civilian of the Quarter, 3rd quarter. Bell works in the Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Directorate and is on temporary duty for the Joint CREW Composite Squadron-One.

Navy Cmdr. Brian Allen, Multi-National Division-Central officer-in-charge, presented the award to Bell.

Bell has worked at the depot for four and a half years. Prior to deploying to Iraq to be a Field Service Representative (FSR), he worked in the Systems Integration and Support Directorate.

He arrived in Baghdad on July 5 for a six-month assignment as a Field Service Representative supporting the Counter Radio Controlled Improvised Explosive Device Electronic Warfare (CREW) program. He received initial training at the

CREW Regional Support Center there.

"Shortly following his arrival, word was put out on the floor that we were looking for a volunteer to fill in at Forward Operating Base (FOB) Mahmudiyah while the current FSR went on leave," said Cmdr. Adam Masten, CREW technical officer. "Mark was the only one to volunteer for this position and needed to be on-site before July 23 to conduct turnover."

Bell would fill in for a site lead, so he was also required to learn the Theater Property Equipment material management system, quality assurance and troubleshooting procedures.

Furthermore, he needed to become the resident expert on different types of CREW systems, said Masten. He needed to learn to use two computer program systems, PBUSE (Property Book Unit Supply Enhanced – a web based computer program used to track and allocate theater property equipment) and Repair Data. "While we were all a little skeptical at first, we like to operate on a process of volunteerism, so we gave him the opportunity."

The Field Support Site at FOB Mahmudiyah consists of one Navy senior

chief petty officer and one civilian FSR. The site supports hundreds of vehicles for Multi-National Division—Central and is in the forward operating area.

Masten said Mark spent the next two weeks working furiously. When he wasn't on the Regional Support Center floor installing systems, he was receiving training by the system original equipment manufacturer or theater property equipment personnel.

"In a nutshell, I ran the entire Warlock site at this FOB," Bell said. "I was in charge of CREW-equipped vehicles and the responsibility of ensuring they all worked properly."

"He never once uttered a complaint about being worked to death," Masten noted. "Two and a half weeks later, he flew off to Mahmudiyah for what he thought would be a three week fill-in job. After a three-day turnover he was left in charge, sleeping on a cot in his workshop in unfamiliar territory."

Masten said that Mark took to his responsibilities in Mahmudiyah with the

See AWARD on Page 7

Tis the season: Depot gears up for Operation Santa Claus

**by Jennifer Caprioli
Staff Writer**

As the holidays approach with more speed than Santa's reindeer on Christmas Eve, depot employees are being asked to slow down, reflect on the meaning of the season, and gear-up for Operation Santa Claus.

Operation Santa Claus (OSC) efforts began at the depot in the 1960s. Since then hundreds of employees, Soldiers and retirees have volunteered time and money to support local organizations during the holiday season.

Walter Dorosky, project coordinator, hopes this year's OSC activities will generate \$500-\$1,500 each for the 13 local organizations that participate in the program, such as the Northeast Veterans Center, Wayne County Children and Youth, and Women's Resources of Monroe County.

OSC holiday parties

For the past 10 years Michelle Young has volunteered for OSC. She says she still remembers "waltzing out on the floor as Chilly the Penguin," during the first OSC party she attended. After that day she was physically drained, yet emotionally filled, by everyone's smiles, laughter and endless supply of hugs and kisses. Now, as Mother Christmas and the costume coordinator for the parties, she still feels exhausted after each party but loves every minute of it.

Why does she do it? "Just for them (the children)."

John Bienick, a 25-year veteran of OSC, has stepped in and out of the bright yellow Big Bird costume for most of those years. He believes the most important lesson he has learned from volunteering is that giving is more gratifying than receiving.

Why does he do it? "I like seeing the smiles on the children's faces."

Another employee who has found a soft place in his heart for OSC is Tom Reece. He has volunteered at the parties for two years, and volunteered with Toys for Tots for six years.

Why does he do it? "It's all about the kids."

Whether employees are looking to spread holiday cheer,

make a child smile or share their good fortune, most agree that they come back each year because of the children.

Last year, over 500 children and adults attended the parties. And over 100 people volunteered by dressing in costumes, assisting Santa, working at craft tables, or accompanying partygoers. This year, OSC committee members are expecting more than 750 guests.

The depot's annual OCS holiday parties are scheduled for Dec. 2-4, from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. To volunteer, call Michelle Young, X58866 (to dress-up as a character) or Colleen Gavin, X57150.

Toys, merchandise

Last year OSC monetary donations totaled over \$36,000 and over 32,700 gifts were donated to local organizations. To date, 2008 OSC efforts have helped raise over \$30,000.

Money raised by selling merchandise throughout the year includes "Red Friday" gear, and candy bars and pizza cards, provided by local vendors.

Other organizations also contribute to OSC through awareness and special events, such as the stuffed animal tosses during the Wilkes-Barre /Scranton Penguins ice hockey games. Dec. 19-20 are designated as Operation Santa Claus days. Collection boxes will be available throughout the arena for toy drop off, and new stuffed animals can be tossed on to the rink after one of the periods. Last year, volunteers picked up over 1,250 stuffed animals and toys. Tickets for both games are available in the One Stop Shop.

Tickets for both games are sold in the One Stop Shop.

Santa's Shop

The OSC Santa's Shop will be open from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays in Building 1A by the ATM, Wednesdays outside Café 4 and Thursdays by the Post Restaurant in Building 11. The shop features items such as cinnamon roasted nuts (almonds, cashews, pecans, mixed) and fresh-baked soft pretzels (unsalted, salted, cinnamon sugar, almond, chocolate chip), for \$2 each. Candles and clothing items, including t-shirts, sweatshirts, jackets and hats, will also be on sale daily.

Monetary donations

OSC officials point out that the traditional cash contribution program is still available for employees. Monetary donations are accepted at the One Stop Shop, Santa's Shop or by OSC committee members.

The credit union offers a direct deposit program, which allows employees to donate directly to OSC.

Tree lighting ceremony

Depot employees, veterans, Soldiers, and family members are invited to the tree lighting ceremony on Dec. 2, 5 p.m., at The Landing. There will be a food and beverage buffet and musical entertainment after the ceremony. Santa will also be at the ceremony to meet with the children, listen to their holiday requests and distribute gifts.



Last year, 100 people volunteered by dressing in costumes, assisting Santa, working at craft tables or accompanying partygoers during the annual holiday parties.


COMMUNITY BULLETIN

Editor's Note: The Community Bulletin provides an avenue for depot and tenant employees to advertise van or car pools, and for-sale items. Money making items such as rentals and personal business will not be accepted.

Information must be submitted via e-mail to Jacqueline.Boucher@us.army.mil, or written items can be mailed to the Public Affairs Office, mail stop 5076.


Submissions must include a name and telephone extension. Only home phone numbers will be published in the Trading Post section.

Ads will be published in four consecutive newspapers. It is the customer's responsibility to update or renew items listed in the Community Bulletin. For information, call Jacqueline Boucher, X58073.



VAN POOLS

- **Childs:** 2 openings, van, 5/4/9, both Fridays, call Laura, X57240.
- **Dickson City:** openings, van, 7 passengers, nonsmoking, 5/4/9, 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m., shared driving, house-to-house pickup, call Dave Stevens, X59065.
- **New Jersey, Route 80, Water Gap area:** Seeking to join or start a carpool with those who live in New Jersey and travel Route 80 Westbound in the morning, call Robin, X57345.
- **Windgap:** 1 opening, van, 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m., pickup point is the Country Junction, contact Cristal Fretz, X59177 or crista.fretz@us.army.mil.
- **Springbrook Twp:** 2 openings, van, nonsmoking, 5/4/9, both Fridays, 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Routes 502 to 307 to 435 through Daleville/ Gouldsboro, house-to-house pickup, call Marilyn Slezak, X59186 and Paulette, X56615.
- **Nanticoke, Sugar Notch:** 1 opening, van, 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m., "A" placard, pickup points are the Nanticoke National Guard Armory and the Sugar Notch park and ride, available in January or February, call Ed Tomko, X59682.
- **Edwardsville:** new car pool, 1-3 passengers, 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m., nonsmoking, contact John Sedeski, 417-1096 or sedeski@comcast.net.
- **Mid-Valley area:** 1 opening, van, 7 passengers, 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m., pickup point is the Route 247 park and ride, call Joe Chieffallo, X57705.
- **Olyphant, Daleville exit:** 2 openings, van, 7 passengers, 5/4/9, nonsmoking, call Kevin or Joe, X57767.



TRADING POST

- **Tickets:** Jeff Dunham, Wachovia Arena, Dec. 4, 8 p.m., seats in section FL5, row S, seats 1,2, \$55 each, call Julia 894-9544.
- **Sporting equipment:** Golden Eagle split limb compound single cam, 65-75 lb 29'-31' draw, quiver, arrows, sights, rest, broad heads, release, limb savers, and hard case, \$275; muzzleloader, cva 45 cal inline 209 magnum, millet rings, bsa 6-24x ill mildot scope, pellets, bullets, primers, loading/ cleaning utensils, \$275; 2 tree stands, hang on with shoulder straps, climbing sticks and steps, \$50, and climber with ret., hoist, shoulder straps, full body harness, \$50, assorted archery tools such as scale, square, fletcher with extra arms, arrow components, rests, sights, tackle box, \$50, call Walter at 586-1640, also willing to trade.
- **House:** 3 bedroom, 2 bath, double wide, Bear Creek Township, secluded, well kept, 1,150 sq. ft., private well and septic, 40 ft. porch, new roof, oil tanks, water pressure tank, electric water heater, almost 1/2 acre, private road, gas stove, shed and storage building, \$72,900, call 709-2152.
- **Miscellaneous:** Florida tile, white, new, one box, \$100; tumble marble, new, for back splash in kitchen, one box, \$125, and chair, excellent condition, wood trim with red velvet, \$40, call Paul, 655-8207.
- **Miscellaneous:** Bowflex Power Pro, leg curl with attachment, \$400; Foley Belsaw Sharp, all shop, paid \$800, asking \$200, and Makita 14-inch chop saw with extra blades, \$100, call Frank Hackman, 676-0595.
- **Picnic table:** handmade, includes two benches, pre-treated wood, stained, \$250, call 343-2921.
- **Yamaha Banshee:** 2000, 350cc twin, new pistons, rings, gaskets, spark plugs, axel bearings, throttle cable, never raced, full skid plates (A-arms, mid-frame, rear swing arm), asking \$2,600, bluebook value \$2750, call 233-0988.

NEW SUPERVISORS

Richard Hansen is chief of the Master Production Scheduling (MPS) Branch, Production Management Directorate.

He supervises 27 people in the scheduling and execution of the MPS workload.

Prior to his current position, Hansen was a production planner in the same directorate. He began his career at Tobyhanna in December 2007.

Hansen retired from the Navy in October 2007 after 23 years. He enlisted in March 1984 and rose through the enlisted ranks, attaining the rank of chief petty officer in 1997. He was commissioned to the rank of ensign through the Limited Duty Officer Program in 1998, retiring as a lieutenant.

During his career, Hansen served in countries around the world and in almost every major conflict since 1984.

While on active duty he was the recipient of numerous personal commendations and campaign ribbons, including the Meritorious Service Medal, four Navy and Marine Corps Commendation medals, and four Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals.

He is a 1983 graduate of Scranton Technical High School.

Hansen and his wife Pina reside in Dupont. They are the parents of Cristian, 12. His hobbies include golf and riding all-terrain vehicles with his son.

Tracy Kraftchisin is chief of the Manufacturing Support Branch, Production Management Directorate.

She supervises 23 people in the Manufacturing Support Division who oversee scheduling and program management of workload for several divisions.

Prior to her current position, Kraftchisin was the team lead in the Logistics Management Program (LMP)/Master Production Scheduling Branch. She began her career at Tobyhanna in July 2003.

Her awards and decorations include an Achievement Medal for Civilian Service, Teamwork Awards and the 2008 Army Materiel Command Program Management Organization/Logistics Modernization Program (LMP) Team of the Quarter for the 3rd Quarter award.

Kraftchisin is a 1989 graduate of Old Forge High School. In 1994, she earned a Bachelor of Science degree, and in 1996, she earned a Master's Degree in Public Administration and a Graduate Specialized Certification in Health Service Administration.

She and her husband, Edward, reside in Pittston.

Kraftchisin enjoys hiking and canoeing.

James Scrobola is chief of the Design and Development Branch, Production Engineering Directorate.

He supervises 29 people who provide engineering support for all prototype design, integration, new system testing, manufacturing, and technical drawing and manual development.

Prior to his current position, Scrobola was an electrical engineer in the Manufacturing Engineering Branch. He began his career at Tobyhanna in February 2004.

Scrobola is a 1977 graduate of Wyoming Area High School. In 1990, he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering from Wilkes University.

He and his wife, Joyce, reside in Wyoming. They are parents of James and Jonathan, 14; Zachary, 11; and Grace 9.

Scrobola is a member of the Wyoming Valley Pilots Club, Experimental Aircraft Association and Our Lady of Sorrows Church. He enjoys hunting, fishing, restoring aircraft, flying and spending time with family.

Ruben Fabunan is chief of the Image Optics/Laser Branch, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Directorate.

He supervises 47 people who perform work on night vision goggles, scopes, driver's viewers, laser designators and laser range finders.

Prior to his current position, Fabunan was chief of the Man Portable Branch in the same directorate. He began his career at Tobyhanna in May 2006.

Fabunan has over 21 years federal government service, which he began at Long Beach Naval Shipyard, Long Beach, Calif. He worked in the calibration lab there before being transferred to the Marine Corps Logistics Base in Barstow following a Base Realignment and Closure Commission decision.

Fabunan served as a work leader in the electro-optic shop, then radar shop where he helped lead production efforts on the AN/TPS-59 Radar.

Fabunan is a 1985 graduate of Banning High School, Wilmington, Calif. In 2008, he earned an associate's degree from Axia College, Phoenix, Ariz.

He and his wife, Veronica, reside in Clarks Summit. They are the parents of Ruben, 23; Rubie, 17; Rudy, 16; and Reina, 3.

Fabunan is a member of the Our Lady of Snows Church. He enjoys traveling with the family.



Hansen



Kraftchisin



Scrobola



Fabunan

WELCOME TO THE DEPOT

Name	Title	Organization
Gregory Carmouche	Equipment specialist, electronics	D/C3 Avnionics
Mark Deyesso	Electronics mechanic	D/ISR
David Fisher	Motor vehicle operator	D/PM
Peter Pypia	Electronics mechanic	D/Comm Sys
Bruce Wilson	Equipment specialist, electronics	D/C3 Avionics
William Graves	Electronics mechanic	D/ISR
David Fairclough	Firefighter	D/IRM



REUSE

RECYCLE

REDUCE



Jennifer Pilant has eight years of experience working in military and public libraries.

Tobyhanna welcomes library science expert

A master’s degree in library and information science will designate Jennifer Pilant as Tobyhanna’s first librarian. Joining the technical library staff last month as a technical information specialist, Pilant will receive her degree in the spring. The library is part of the Production Engineering Directorate’s Mission Software Branch.

Pilant served over four years in the Air Force as a personnel specialist and has eight years of experience working in base and public libraries.

Part of Pilant’s job is to help “lead the technical library into the digital world.”

She explains that the Air Force and Army are heading that way, so she hopes to be able to integrate new technology here. She will also oversee updating an existing database that the library uses.

“We hope to incorporate workstations in the support shops that will allow employees to view documents and

drawings without coming to the library,” she says.

The technical library houses Army, Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps technical documentation, which includes technical manuals, orders, bulleting, depot and national maintenance work requirements, modified work orders, and test procedures.

Pilant believes her previous experience in the military will help her with her job here because she already knows many of the government processes and has prior knowledge of manuals and technical orders. She believes her only challenge will be learning the technical side of library maintenance.

She graduated from Woodbury High School, Woodbury, N.J. Pilant earned a bachelor’s degree in business administration and management from the University of Maryland in 1998. She and her husband, Paul, are parents to Conor, 8.

NOTES from Page 1

19 and 20. Gold Zone seating price for tickets at the gate is \$22.25 and tickets purchased at the One Stop Shop are \$10. Free tickets are available for the Military Appreciation game on Dec. 19 to Soldiers and their family members. Toys for Tots collection bins will also be set up at both games.

Auto shop offers winterization safety check

The Post Auto Service Shop (PASS) will run a special winterization safety check for \$42.95 during November. The cost includes an oil change and tire rotation. Also included are checks of the tire pressure, hoses, belts, brakes, coolant, temperature protection level and battery charging system. The PASS is located in Building 702 and is open 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information or to make an appointment, call X57583.

Ice show tickets go on sale

Tickets for three Disney on Ice “Mickey and Minnie’s Magical Journey” shows are available for \$19. The shows will be at the Wachovia Arena on Jan. 17 at 3 p.m., Jan. 18 at 1 p.m., and Jan. 19 at 5 p.m. For more information call X58851.

The Stars on Ice Live show, featuring Sasha Cohen, is also coming to the Wachovia Arena on March 26 at 7 p.m.

Anyone interested in purchasing tickets should contact the One Stop Shop, X58851.

Childcare announces openings

The Child Development Center has openings for fulltime, part-time or drop-in care, for children ages 1 year and older. Registration is free.

For more information or to register, contact Jennifer Williams, X58113, jenn.williams@us.army.mil or www.tobyhanna.army.mil/community/cys.html to fill out a quick needs survey.

Retirees breakfast changes

The Tobyhanna Taylor retirees meeting restaurant has been changed from the Family Affair, Taylor, to the Perkins Restaurant and Bakery, Route 315, Pittston. The retirees meet 8-10 a.m. the third Wednesday of every month. For more information, contact Bernie Petrasek, bjpetra@juno.com.

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AWARD from Page 5

same exuberance he became known for at the Regional Support Center. He was very proactive in getting the work accomplished, completing his first two CVRJ installs by himself, retrofitting all the Duke V2 vehicles he was responsible for and conducting the normal routine weekly maintenance schedule on all vehicles.

“It was one of the hardest things I have ever had to do; but like I always say, work hard and the rest will come easy,” Bell said.

“Mark’s exceptional performance was noticed by those down in Mahmudiyah and I personally received phone calls from two Army lieutenant colonels, one Navy lieutenant commander and two Army majors asking that he remain at Mahmudiyah with the return of their regular FSR,” Masten said. “Due to a shift of units because of base closures, the vehicle density at Mahmudiyah increased and I was able to justify keeping a second FSR at the Warlock shop, although I would have loved to have him return here to the RSC.”

Bell said that although he had several duties, the work was shared with the other two technicians when they returned.

“On a bigger base there is typically one person who specifically deals with paper work, quality assurance, training, etc.,” he said. “Being a smaller FOB means all responsibility falls on the three of us. We learned each others jobs so that we can help each other out as well as cover for another during absences such as leave or emergencies.”

He noted that working conditions in a small FOB are not the best, but they make continuous improvements to their shop, which also serves as office and sleeping quarters.

Working hours are not set and Bell and his coworkers had to be available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Because of the high

activity of the units they support, Bell would complete equipment installations at midnight. He would also be called upon to troubleshoot systems at all hours for units about to go on missions.

“The 24 by 16 foot shop was built from the ground up by FSR personnel,” he said. “Most work is conducted in front of the shop under a metal awning; however, we sometimes have to go to the vehicles depending on the situation. We continue to make improvements in order to better support the units and to make things as comfortable as possible.”

Bell said the most interesting part of his job is meeting the Soldiers and learning about the different types of Radio Controlled Improvised Explosive Devices. “The most satisfying part of my job is the thanks I get from the Soldiers and knowing that this program saves lives.”

“I am thankful for him and very proud that he has achieved this personal accomplishment,” said Shelly Sherman, who is serving as an electronics supervisor in the Joint CREW Composite Squadron-One. “He’s an amazing person and he has an amazing story if you ever have the opportunity to talk with him. He has truly made me a proud Tobyhanna Army Depot employee to know that he is on my team.”

Sherman is part of the Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Directorate’s Air Traffic Control Division.

“Mark has already requested to stay an additional six months, which I avidly endorsed,” Masten said. “I would gladly have him work for me anywhere. He is a self-starter and enthusiastic employee whose joy and mirth at what he does is highly infectious to everyone around him. He has a very positive outlook and makes it known that he is here to serve the Soldier. If he has a twin, please send him over as well.”

Army’s chief of staff visits Fort Monmouth, discusses Army imperatives

by Timothy Rider and Henry Kearney
AMC Public Affairs

In a visit by Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. George W. Casey Jr. and his wife, Sheila, to Fort Monmouth, the Army’s senior-ranking general officer talked to Fort Monmouth leaders, its workforce and future officers about the Army’s four imperatives to “restore balance” now and for the future: Sustain, Prepare, Reset and Transform.

Following a welcome by Maj. Gen. Dennis L. Via, CECOM Life Cycle Management Command commander, and other senior leaders, a command overview and a Base Realignment and Closure implementation briefing, General Casey addressed about 500 Fort Monmouth personnel at Pruden Auditorium.

Video teleconferencing made the presentation available to numerous members of Army Team Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance, or C4ISR, personnel in Fort Monmouth’s Myer Center main auditorium; the McAfee Center, Tobyhanna Army Depot, Pa.; Information Systems Engineering Command, Fort Huachuca, Ariz.; the Central Technical Support Facility, Fort Hood, Texas; and at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.

Sheila Casey visited with senior spouses and hosted a family forum during the visit where they exchanged ideas on Army family support. Topics of the discussion included supporting special needs children, extending Montgomery G.I. Bill benefits to military family members and qualifying for in-state tuition for family members stationed for tours at Army installations.

Following his remarks, General Casey discussed the four Army imperatives with U.S. Military Academy Preparatory School cadet candidates in an address in the USMAPS Auditorium. He took questions from audience members at both locations.

General Casey explained that shortly after he began his job as chief of staff of the Army in April 2007, the development of the four imperatives occurred after hearing “chatter” about a hollow Army that was not ready. He said he went around the world with his wife talking to Soldiers, leaders and families. “What became clear to me is this is a hugely resilient, committed professional combat-seasoned force. And the evidence of that is what we’re seeing in Iraq and Afghanistan,” he said.

However, General Casey said, “It was also clear to me that we were being stretched to operate at a pace that we can’t sustain either from the perspective of sustaining our Soldiers and families and civilians, or from rebuilding the strategic flexibility to do other things.”

Having to find the right words to talk about the condition of the Army publicly, “I started saying we’re out of balance. We’re not broken. We’re not hollow, we’re out of balance.” General Casey explained that it would, “take every bit of four years,” to put the Army back in balance.

The first imperative, Sustain, refers to sustaining Soldiers, families and civilians “They are the heart and soul of the

Army. We restated our commitment to families, we doubled the amount of money we put toward Soldier and family programs, and hopefully you’re starting to see some of the impact of that,” General Casey said.

The second imperative, Prepare, continues to prepare Soldiers for success in the current conflict. “You all contribute every day with the work you’re doing here. I went to Iraq in June of 2004 and left in February of 2007, and I will tell you that the forces that we’re sending to Iraq and Afghanistan have improved in leaps and bounds in terms of the (Army Team C4ISR) equipment that they’re bringing with them,” General Casey said.

General Casey explained that the third imperative, Reset, refers to bringing Soldiers and units back to a capability that allows them to begin preparing for their next missions quickly and efficiently. The first element is equipping, “And I’m very impressed with what I see CECOM doing here getting out to the units and putting a team out there that fixes their communications equipment. It gets rave reviews every place I go around the Army, so good for you on that.”

Also in terms of resetting the force, General Casey said, “We are working to put every returning unit in the Army on a six-month unit Reset model, because we are moving away from the garrison-based Army that lived to train as we did before Sept. 11. General Casey then likened the Army to a naval aircraft carrier returning to dry dock for six months. “Our expectation is that the same kind of thing goes on with our units—they establish property accountability, they put Soldiers on leave, they do changes of command, they start some new equipment fielding, and they send their noncommissioned officers off to their professional education.”

General Casey described the final imperative, Transform, using how the Army prepared for dealing with the Cold War threat from the Soviet Union and Warsaw Pact nations during the 1970s and 1980s. The Army will now have to prepare to operate across a full spectrum—from major conventional operations to irregular warfare to peacetime engagements.

“We can’t optimize for one or the other. We have to build a force that is capable of effective operations across the spectrum. This is a much harder task for the Army. Fortunately, we have a combat-seasoned, experienced force that’s capable of dealing with this.”

One aspect of the imperative, Transform, touched an issue effecting the Fort Monmouth audience —Base Realignment and Closure. General Casey placed BRAC in the context of larger realignment efforts being undertaken by the Army, including the return of forces from Europe and Korea, the growth of the Army by 75,000 Soldiers and the re-basing associated with those actions. “We will move about 380,000 Soldiers and families in the next three years. That’s the largest re-basing of the Army that anybody can remember, probably since World War II.”

“It’s an opportunity to reset ourselves to be the expeditionary force that we want. I was very pleased to see the efforts that have been going on here for the move, and to mitigate the impacts on people because that’s very important to all of us.”



During his visit to Fort Monmouth, General Casey was briefed on command missions and Base Realignment and Closure implementation, and received several advanced technology presentations and demonstrations. (Photo by Michael Allison)

In the address to more than 230 cadet candidates and their USMAPS instructors, cadre and leadership, General Casey praised the service of the men and women serving in today’s Army.

General Casey noted that last year, approximately 290,000 men and women enlisted or re-enlisted in the Army, including the Army National Guard and Reserve. “Every one of those men and women, just like you, enlisted knowing their nation was at war and that they would go to war [or] lead Soldiers into war,” he said.

General Casey noted that last Memorial Day he laid a wreath at Arlington National Cemetery and spoke at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and he and his wife also visited the Korean War and World War II Veterans Memorials.

“I was struck by two things,” he said, “By the scope of the loss represented, but I was also struck by how lucky we are as a nation to have generation after generation of men and women who are willing to serve. And you represent another generation that is willing to serve our nation and protect our values and ideals from the threat of extremist terror.”

Also during General Casey’s visit, he received several presentations and demonstrations of Army Team C4ISR technologies including Blue Force Tracking, electro-optic/infrared radars and other systems which support the warfighter.

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